

SPARTAN DAILY

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GONG CHA COMES TO DOWNTOWN SJ
See review on page 3

LATE MOTHER MOTIVATES PITCHER
See profile on page 8



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Is a suicide-prevention net necessary for the Golden Gate Bridge?

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INCOMING SPARTANS

Orientation trims a day

BY JENNIFER BALLARDO
Staff Writer

San Jose State is making some changes to the freshman orientation schedule this coming summer. The biggest change being made is the switch from a two-day program to a one-day event. Gregory Wolcott, Director of New Student and Family Programs at SJSU, believes that this change will bring varied feedback. New Student and Family Programs is an organization that helps new students and their families transition into SJSU. “I think it’ll be a little bit of a mixed response,” Wolcott said. “For some it was great, I think some students loved staying on campus and I think for some students that added stress to the program.” Incoming psychology freshman Karina Zesati is frustrated about the change. “In my opinion staying overnight would have been a good experience for the people that won’t be in housing and for people who want to get a feel of what it’s going to be like,” Zesati said. There is a “summer frosh orientation fee,” which covers programming costs, parking and meals. “Now it’s just like we are paying \$250 and we don’t even get to stay the night,” Zesati said. Wolcott cites a number of reasons for the change,

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STARBOY: LEGEND OF THE FALL



JASON REED | CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHER

The Weeknd stopped by San Jose to perform as a part of his world tour “Starboy: Legend of the Fall” at the SAP Center on Friday. He brought along special guests, which included Belly, 6LACK and Rae Sremmurd. He and his guests performed songs to an audience of thousands. The Weeknd performed tracks from many of his albums, pumping up the audience with each song.

See the concert review on page 4

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

100 Days of TRUMP

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Funding the border wall

What he promised: Build a wall dividing the U.S. and Mexico

What has happened: Funding for wall was not included in Congress’ most recent spending bill

Repealing and replacing Affordable Care Act

What he promised: Get rid of the Affordable Care Act and replace with his own version called the “American Health Care Act”

What has happened: Republican Party proposed a replacement, but failed

Travel ban

What he promised: Suspend immigration from “terror-prone” countries

What has happened: Signed two executive orders to suspend immigration from several Muslim countries, but both orders were blocked by courts

Tax reform

What he promised: Reduce rates for middle class and businesses and simplify current tax code

What has happened: Unveiled one-page outline, but no official proposal made yet

Defunding sanctuary cities

What he promised: Cancel all federal funding to sanctuary cities

What has happened: Issued executive action to target such cities, but order was blocked by a judge in San Francisco

Ethics reform

What he promised: “Drain the swamp” of corrupt elected officials in Washington, D.C.

What has happened: No legislation introduced to address this issue

Information gathered from Politico

INFORMATION GATHERED BY ELIZABETH RODRIGUEZ | INFOGRAPHIC BY NICOLE CHUNG

STUDENT PRODUCTIVITY

Senate bill proposes later start times for CA schools

BY ELIZABETH RODRIGUEZ
Staff Writer

On Feb. 13 of this year, California Senator Anthony Portantino introduced Senate Bill 328. If the bill passes, it would require California high schools and middle schools to start at a later time. The bill, which is also known as “Start the School Day Later,” is meant to improve the overall health and well-being of students. “People are more productive if they would start later on,” said business junior Manpreet Kaur. “In the morning, people are more sleepy and they don’t really want talk to anybody.” Senate Bill 328 would allow students more time to sleep in the morning before starting their school day. Irena Keller, leader for a local chapter for the bill is both an adjunct professor of psychology and a parent. Keller did her dissertation on sleep and development and understands the importance and science behind sleep. “The few minutes that they get to sleep and rest does have a positive impact on their health,” Keller said. Schools around San Jose like Abraham Lincoln High School and Pioneer High School begin classes at 7 a.m. Other schools like Willow Glen High School begin their school days at 9 a.m. Middle schools like Herbert Hoover Middle School begin the day of instruction at 7:24 a.m. and Burnette Middle School begins at 7:50 a.m. Although this bill would only affect high schools and middle schools, elementary schools like Horace Mann Elementary and Lowell Elementary

SCHEDULES | Page 2

RESTAURANT

Taco truck to expand in SJ

BY KELLY BURNS
Staff Writer

Every night San Jose State students and residents line up on the corner of 10th and Williams Street late into the night to order tacos, burritos and nacho fries from Spartan Taco Truck.

“I love the taco truck,” said business marketing junior Tamara Afshar. “I go at least once a week.”

Last week, a sign was posted on the truck saying that the owners of Spartan Taco Truck have bought Mi Chalateca Restaurant, located on the other side of 10th and Williams Street.

“I would have never imagined that the truck would have gotten to this magnitude,” said Felix Palavios, owner and founder of the Spartan Taco Truck. “It’s a lot of work, but it is something that I love to do.”

Palavios opened the truck in May 2014. Previously, he had worked as a cook for eight



KELLY BURNS | SPARTAN DAILY

Spartan Taco Truck will be moving to a new and more permanent location.

years at Mi Chalateca. He got the opportunity to manage the restaurant, but turned it down in order to pursue what he loved.

Instead of managing, he decided to purchase a taco truck so he could make his own recipes.

His co-worker at the time Marlene Ruiz, whose father was the previous owner of Mi

FOOD | Page 2

25th ANNIVERSARY OF RODNEY KING BEATING & L.A. RIOTS
POLICE BRUTALITY CASES SINCE 1992

1991-1992

RODNEY KING
1965-2012

King was beaten by police after high speed chase. The officers were acquitted and this triggered mass riots in Los Angeles, CA.

1999

AMADOU DIALLO
Aged 22

Four plainclothes officers fired 41 shots, 19 of which hit Diallo. They believed he had a gun, which was actually a wallet. Officers were acquitted of all charges.

2006

SEAN BELL
Aged 23

Bell and two other men were shot by undercover officers on the eve of his wedding. Police believed that the men were about to partake in a drive by.

2014

ERIC GARNER
Aged 43

Police attempted to arrest Garner. One officer put him in a chokehold to which he expressed that he could not breathe. Garner died on arrival at the hospital.

2017

JORDAN EDWARDS
Aged 15

Jordan left a house party after police arrived. Jordan was in the front passenger seat, as one officer, armed with an AR 15 rifle opened fire and shot Edwards in the head, killing him.

INFOGRAPHIC BY ANDRE JAQUEZ

BUDGET

Continued from page 1

the biggest of which is the increasing number of the incoming freshman class.

“Our numbers are way up from last year at this time ... Last fall we saw about 3,200 freshmen come in and this year is projected to be 4,000,” Wolcott said. “So that’s off the bat — just the need to have more orientation sessions in the summer.”

According to Wolcott, SJSU hosted eight overnight orientation sessions last summer. Changing to a one-day program allows for 15 sessions to be held this coming summer.

More sessions means fewer students each day, allowing more support for each freshman.

“Advising and registration, for example, for many years has been a challenge to get students in front of a computer and give them the support they need to actually register,” Wolcott said. “So I think the idea is we’re going to have a computer for every student and they should register a lot faster through the program.”

If parents or family members want to attend orientation, each individual must pay an additional \$80. According to the freshman orientation website, this fee also covers programming costs, parking and meals.

Wolcott said they are aware the orientation fees are expensive, and changing to a one-day program was also meant to help families cut costs.

“With the two-day program, most families, if

they were planning to attend, would have to spend two nights here — the night that they’re staying on campus and then another night either before or after ... so it gets expensive,” Wolcott said.

Construction on campus also causes issues when it comes to housing the freshmen overnight.

“There’s a lot of renovation of housing happening now and then this summer,” Wolcott said. “So I don’t think we’re going to have the capacity anyway to have students stay overnight.”

According to Wolcott, data has consistently shown that having orientation leaders is one of the best parts of the program.

“A feature of the program is still connecting with their orientation leader,” Wolcott said. “They’ll still have those connections with our staff.”

Radio, television and film freshman Hannah Hylton went through the two-day program last summer.

“It was good because we got to see what it’s like to be in a dorm and have to wake up and follow a schedule,” Hylton said. “It forced us to meet new people like who we roomed with.”

Wolcott believes that this program will work better for the university.

“Overall, holistically, I think it’s a better model,” Wolcott said. “Most of the other CSU schools that are our size have a one-day program for a lot of the same reasons, so it kind of fits in with the size of our school now and the model we’re trying to emulate.”

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SCHEDULES

Continued from page 1

begin their days of instruction around 9 a.m.

According to the National Sleep Foundation, teens who are deprived from sleep or get less than 8 to 10 hours of sleep can suffer from disorders such as narcolepsy, insomnia, restless leg syndrome and sleep apnea. Weight loss and weight gain are also some of the things since they relate with physical health.

Most of the schools in California start earlier and earlier as students grow older according to the Start School Later website. Sleep deprivation has been found to be one the leading causes of depression among teen, car accidents and having difficult learning.

“Research has shown that students benefit from later start times in terms of health and academic achievement,” said Peter Allen, public information officer for the San Jose Unified School District.

Senator Portantino currently serves as a Democrat, representing the 25th district. “8:30 a.m. is the earliest a high schooler or middle schooler should start school,” Portantino said in an interview with

Pasadena Star-News.

Portantino also argued that having later starting times for students would also improve attendance records. In the state of California, attendance records are directly tied to how much funding a school receives.

According to Portantino’s bill, if attendance records improve by 1 percent, it could be able to generate \$40 million annually.

Currently schools in California are required to follow laws which are set by the governing board of each school district. Regulations set by districts are allowed to determine the length of schooldays for several grade levels and classes. The districts are allowed to make changes regarding school hours as long as they follow specific provisions of law.

There are questions concerning this bill and how it would affect after school programs. If this bill were to pass, after school programs would most likely have to start and end later in the day.

On April 19 the bill passed the Senate Education Committee.

“At this time, San Jose Unified has not taken a position on SB 328,” Allen said.

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FOOD
PANTRY



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Some food items are perishable and will need to be refrigerated shortly after pick up. Visit sjsu.edu/sjsucares for more information.

This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals needing any other accommodations should contact Monica Martin at 408-924-2563.



KELLY BURNS | SPARTAN DAILY
Spartan Taco Truck customers enjoy evening meals on 10th Street and Williams Street.

FOOD

Continued from page 1

Chalateca, saw this as a great opportunity to branch out the business.

“We got a lot of rejections for a few months and begged people to let us open our taco truck,” Ruiz said. “We wanted to avoid the place we are at now because it’s so close to Mi Chalateca and we didn’t want to butt heads and be competition to them.”

When they first opened the taco truck, which at the time was called El Caminante, business was slow and had low sales. With Palavios’ persistence, the taco truck became more and more popular.

“I thought my truck would be like any other taco truck that worked at night and would have regular sales,” Palavios said. “The restaurant is giving me the opportunity to show what I can really do with food and service.”

Palavios plans to keep the same menu items that the taco truck has now and add more to it.

The owners plan to have the restaurant open to the public during normal business hours, with the taco truck still operating at night.

“It being open during the day will make it much more convenient for me,” said business marketing sophomore Gabby Strong.

Palavios hopes the restaurant will have the same popularity as the taco truck and in the future a goal is to open a second restaurant.

“I’m so excited that they are opening a restaurant,” Afshar said. “I feel like they have a lot of loyal customers who will support their expansion.”

Mi Chalateca is currently under renovation with a grand opening to be scheduled before the end of the month.

“In the beginning all we wanted to do is just create something original and feed hungry, sometimes drunk college students at reasonable prices,” the sign on Spartan Taco Truck reads. “We never thought we would grow this big and gain so many customers.”

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@kellyburns

BOBA REVIEW

Gong Cha tea house attracts eager students

BY PAYJE REDMOND
Staff Writer

Quickly is gone and in its place stands Gong Cha, offering fresher and tastier teas.

Gong Cha, an international tea house chain, is located on the corner of Paseo de San Antonio and South Fourth Street.

Unlike its predecessor, Gong Cha takes credit and debit cards.

Its signature drinks include milk teas with milk foam – the foam is creamy enough to make the perfect milk mustache.

Matcha flavored milk tea topped with milk foam creates streams of white seeping down into green. The flavor is sweet and salty. You can add tapioca pearls for a subtle sweet and chewy texture.

The bold black and red exterior paint on reinforced concrete gives the establishment a modern look.

Inside, the simple furniture and open seating further compliment a sleek design.

Employees dressed in black polos also follow the color scheme.

“Gong Cha California” is printed on the back of the polos, and underneath the print lies California mountains along with the Golden Gate Bridge and Hollywood sign.

Given that the place has only been open for a week, both a line and wait are expected.

However, Gong Cha has a smooth ordering process assisted with iPads.

A staff member took my order so all I had to do at the register was pay.

Lincoln High School student Rachelle Head has been to Gong Cha twice at this location. She waited about eight minutes each time for her order but said she didn’t mind.

“Their iced coffee with caramel was really good,” Head said.

Though tea houses are a hub for all ages, the atmosphere is definitely college-esque. Guests carry backpacks and MacBooks, while explicit hip-hop and rap play in the background.

If you are looking for outlets to charge your phone or laptop, they’ve got plenty.

A single flat screen TV plastered in the corner streams a Gong Cha sponsored advertisement on repeat. It shows video of people with huge smiles, drinking their brand of tea at different tourist destinations such as the Taj Mahal.

This video was much different from the provocative Korean pop music videos that played at Quickly.

Unlike a lot of other tea places in downtown San Jose, Gong Cha’s boba is fresh.

The texture of the tapioca pearls was chewier and slimmer than the ones previously served at Quickly.

There is also a sparkling series which adds a nice fizz to your favorite teas.

Like other tea and coffee shop competitors, Gong Cha offers free Wi-Fi to guests.

There isn’t a ton of study space available but once the hype dies down



PAYJE REDMOND | SPARTAN DAILY
Brianna Sheats and Victoria Santelis try their Gong Cha smoothies.

and everyone finds their favorite drink, seating will be easier to find.

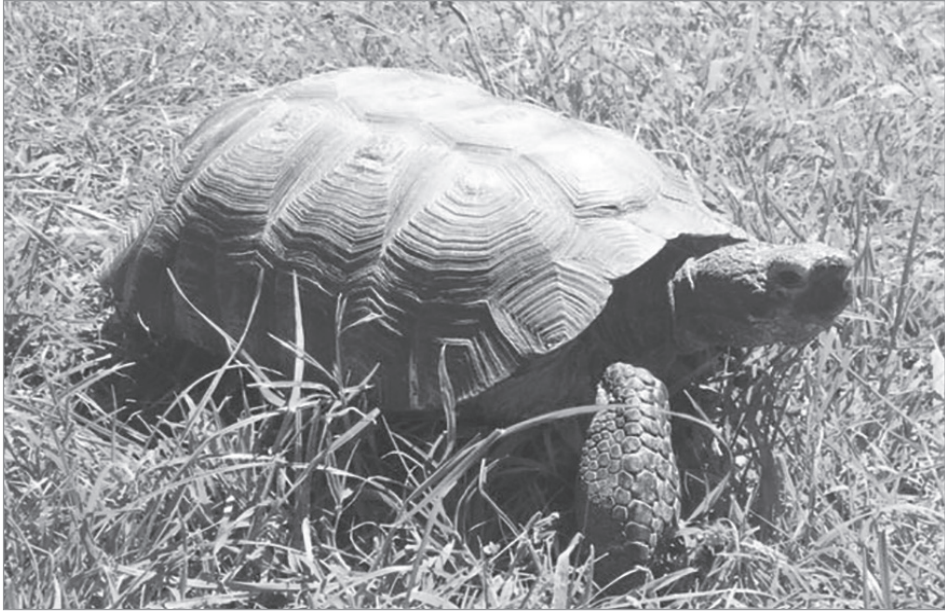
Currently, the tea house is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. almost everyday.

Where they are lacking, there is room for improvement. Speeding up their order completion time is an easy fix. The lack of public restrooms is a bummer, but planning ahead can prevent that from being a problem.

Although there are many competing tea houses downtown, the milk foam and sparkling fizz additions make Gong Cha worth trying.

Follow Payje on Twitter | @Theyasked

Jeremiah the tortoise enjoys extensive college experience



JENNIFER BALLARDO | SPARTAN DAILY
Jeremiah the tortoise enjoys a sunny Thursday afternoon in the garden eating grass.

BY JENNIFER BALLARDO
Staff Writer

Jeremiah has been living on campus at San Jose State for decades. During this time he has been teaching students on and off campus. In his free time he likes to visit the garden and munch on grass.

“He’s very imprinted,” said Diane Davis, director of the Science Education Resource Center (SERC) at SJSU. “He thinks he’s a human.”

It is estimated that Jeremiah is around 80 years old. He is a California desert tortoise, which is a threatened species. It is unknown when Jeremiah came to live at SJSU.

“We have records that we have found back to 1973 for him being here at the university but before that we don’t know where he was,” Davis said. “I joke that he should be a tenured faculty because he’s been here since 1973 teaching kids and San Jose State students about reptiles.”

Jeremiah stays in the basement of Duncan Hall along with other creatures and critters including frogs, cockroaches, snakes, a tarantula and a skink.

“[A skink] is like a lizard snake ordeal,” said biology senior Danielle Thomas. “It’s a mixture of the both and that one is really cute, it’s fun to handle.”

Thomas is one of the students who is paid to take care of Jeremiah. Her duties include cleaning his enclosure and making his diet.

“We feed them like it’s the Taj Mahal — they get a very good diet with us,” Thomas said. “With Jeremiah he’s even more of a special guy so we give him things that are grown like actually in the gardens here.”

Business freshman Justin Allen also

helps to take care of Jeremiah and the other reptiles.

“Our primary function is basically making sure they get outside, get some exercise, get some fresh air and some food and stuff,” Allen said.

It is believed that at some point Jeremiah was hit by a car. He has a scar on his plastron — the bottom part of a turtle’s shell, where you might think the turtle’s belly would be.

“What happened was he probably got a crack in the shell from being hit by the car, so a veterinarian put fiberglass over it to seal it so bacteria and stuff can’t get in there,” Davis said.

The students and staff who work with the animals have funny memories to share about their experiences.

“Where we keep them we play music and so if they’re bobbing their head it just looks like they’re dancing and it’s the funniest thing in the world,” Thomas said.

Jeremiah was at the Earth Day celebration that took place on Tower Lawn this month. He sat in a kiddie pool at the booth for the Science Education Resource Center.

“He was in the spotlight and he was rocking it,” said biology freshman Ciarra Dela Cruz who also helps take care of Jeremiah.

Davis, Thomas, Dela Cruz and Allen all agree that Jeremiah has a charming personality.

“You kind of create a character in your head for each animal and you get attached for sure,” Thomas said.

Follow Jennifer on Twitter | @jayembeee1

Correction

On Tuesday, May 2, the Spartan Daily published an article where we misidentified the director and misdated a reference to the “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” musical. The Spartan Daily regrets this error.

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Should the Golden Gate Bridge have a suicide net?

Barriers are not the answer



Andre Jaquez
Staff Writer

Welcome to San Francisco – the best city in the world where nothing bad ever happens – I will be your guide. The Golden Gate Bridge is the most notorious suicide hotspot in America. According to Marin County death statistics, an estimated 1,600 people have tragically fallen from the romanticized edifice since 1937.

On April 13, construction officially began on a stainless steel net to deter potential jumpers. The net will be located 20 feet below the bridge’s sidewalk and 20 feet above the water, spanning 1.7 miles.

Come back in 2021, when the \$204 million barrier is complete and experience the brand new “Life Savor Net Ride.” Toss your children into the safety net like big, fat codfish and jump in after them for just a few hundred dollars of good family fun.

All jokes aside, I disagree with the construction of the suicide net because of its demeaning practicality, poor aesthetic taste and flagrant disregard for a person’s fundamental right to die.

Suicide is not a practical issue, it’s a societal and domestic issue. The net may prevent suicides on the Golden Gate Bridge, but it won’t prevent the occurrence of suicide anywhere else. I’m sure plenty of Bay Area communities and organizations could use \$204 million toward interpersonal suicide prevention. Don’t be fooled by the city’s humanitarian b*****t. This is one of the biggest Public Relations moves in the history of San Francisco.

The occurrence of suicide is an inevitable phenomenon. In 2010, the British Medical Journal studied the effect of a suicide barrier on the Bloor Street Viaduct in Toronto. According to the study, “Although the barrier prevented suicides at Bloor Street Viaduct, the rate of suicide by jumping in Toronto remained unchanged. This lack of change might have been due to a reciprocal increase in suicides from other bridges and buildings.”

Suicide should not be encouraged or advocated, but it should be an option – talk about free will. For instance, the Death with Dignity Act allows people to voluntarily self-administer lethal medication (kill themselves).

It was enacted in the following states: California, Colorado, Oregon, Vermont, Washington and Washington, D.C.

It’s simple, if someone would rather die than suffer, allow that certain someone deliverance. Do not speak to me about what’s humane and what’s not. The circumstances of any type of self-induced death are no different. A person experiences tremendous pain in one way or another and can no longer bare it, thus that person resorts to death.

According to the American Journal of Psychiatry, “Golden Gate Bridge jumpers come from all walks of life. While depression is the most common cause of suicide, many jumpers act impulsively as a consequence of acute stress, shame, humiliation, rejection or other trauma.”

Life is mandatory, yet no one chooses it. Perhaps life isn’t for everyone and there’s beauty in the idea that some people die sooner or more tragically than others – it just happens.

When the net is complete, the many forlorn will simply find another graceful coda. Suicide barriers aren’t trending yet, so there’s still time to find your perfect swan song. In the meantime, life is worth living.

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David Taub
Staff Writer

The Golden Gate Bridge is one of the most iconic and recognizable landmarks in the world. It stands as a shimmering monument welcoming people to the San Francisco Bay Area. However, over the last 80 years it has also become a dark symbol of grief for an untold number of families.

While the Golden Gate Bridge is one of the most photographed bridges, it is also one the top suicide hot spots in the world. According to Marin County Death Statistics, since its opening in 1937 1,600 people jumped off the 220-foot-tall bridge to their deaths.

In high school I knew a guy named Ken. We weren’t friends but we knew each other. After graduation he went to San Francisco State University.

A couple years into college, he jumped off of the Golden Gate Bridge to his death.

While we were never close I still can’t help but think “what if there had been a net?” every time I cross that bridge.

According to the Washington Post,

in 2016, 39 people killed themselves by jumping from the bridge and another 184 went there with the intent to harm themselves but were stopped.

The city of San Francisco began working on the completely necessary and overdue suicide deterrent net under the Golden Gate Bridge on April 13.

For nearly a decade there has been immense debate over building a barrier on the bridge. Now, an overwhelming amount of research and evidence shows that deterrent barriers like the one that San Francisco is building do in fact prevent suicide and save lives.

However, this knowledge is not entirely new.

The deterrent net is planned to be made out of stainless steel mesh and it will span the 1.7 miles of the bridge on either side. It is planned to be located 20 feet below the bridge and will extend out 20 feet over the water. The suicide net is expected to be completed by 2021.

Deterrent measures like the one being built on the Golden Gate Bridge have been employed at other suicide hot spots around the world and succeeded in reducing suicide.

A deterrent structure was added to the Memorial Bridge in Augusta, Maine in 1983 after 14 jumping-related suicides in 22 years. The Memorial Bridge has also had zero suicides take place from jumping off of it since the deterrent has been in place.

It only took 14 suicides for the city of Augusta to take action. It is simply unacceptable for San Francisco to drag its feet in constructing a deterrent of its own on the Golden Gate Bridge.

A view should never be valued over a human life.

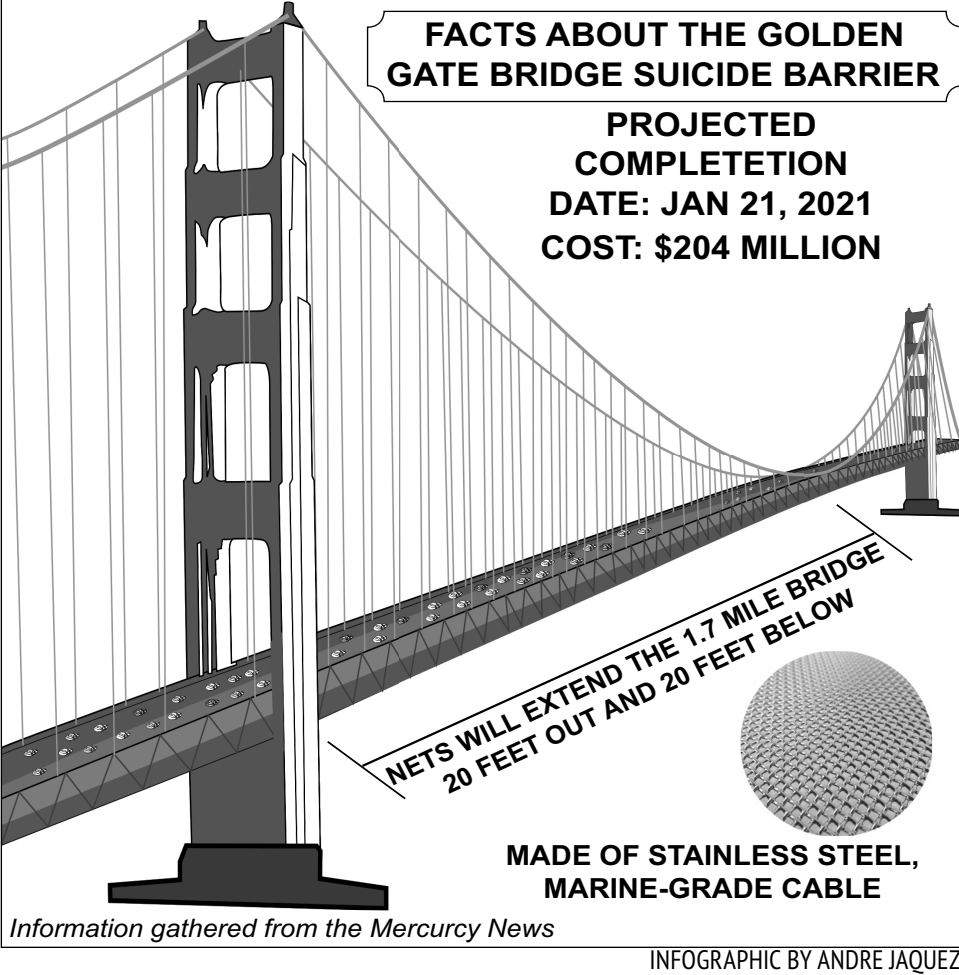
While we are on the subject of worth, another major problem that opponents of the deterrent net have is the cost. The net will cost an estimated \$204 million and some people think that that is simply too much money.

I would like to see opponents say to the 39 families that lost loved ones that their lives are simply not worth spending \$204 million. I’m sure they’ll understand.

At the commemoration ceremony on April 13, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi addressed the issue of the multi-hundred-million dollar price tag on the deterrent net.

“I would say, ‘No it’s not a lot of money for a life. For all of these lives,’” Pelosi said.

Follow David on Twitter | @davidtaub3



I’m scared for the future where six figures won’t be enough



Kelly Burns
Staff Writer

As a college student, I can only dream of a day where I will no longer be surviving off of cup noodles and be making a six figure salary.

A six figure salary is what I have always thought of as an income that will make me comfortable in life. Comfort is something that I strive for, especially now when my wallet regulates on a daily basis what I can and cannot do.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has recently updated its 2017 income limits, which reveals what is currently considered low

income in each county.

According to HUD, six figure salaries are now considered “low-income” in the Bay Area.

Looks like I will be living with my parents for the rest of my life.

In San Francisco and San Mateo counties, an income of \$105,350 for a family of four people is considered low, according to the new HUD limits.

This number is just \$10,000 under the median income for households in the county. It also makes the Bay Area’s income limits the highest of any urban area in the country.

Those who fall under the “low-income” threshold can qualify for affordable and subsidized housing programs.

The Bay Area is home for many of the world’s largest high-tech corporations, creating a high demand for people all over the world to move and live here.

This demand is making it almost impossible to afford to live in the area unless you are employed by one of the high-tech companies such as Google, Facebook and Apple.

I love living in the Bay Area. The climate is mild and you can go from the beach to the city to the mountains all in one day. On top of it being home to major high-tech companies, why people from all over the world would want to move here makes sense. While I was fortunate to be born and raised in the area, I am scared that I will not be able to afford staying here.

“It really discourages me from living in the Bay Area,” said business marketing senior Tim Pearson.

While the county income limits do come as a shock at first, the rise of the cost of living stems from the positive economic growth in the area.

According to CBS, 19,000 jobs were

created in California last month. Of those, 13,000 were in the Bay Area. With unemployment rates lowering to 4 percent in most counties in the Bay Area and jobs being created at a steady and hasty pace, it only makes sense for the prices of housing to go up over time.

However, for those just graduating college these steep numbers can be taunting.

“It definitely does not surprise me that six figure salaries are now considered ‘low-income,’” said psychology senior Courtney Shull. “But that also doesn’t make it any less scary to be graduating in this kind of environment. The cost of living here is insanely high and I was hoping to stay in the Bay Area after graduation.”

Follow Kelly on Twitter | @kellynburns

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor may be placed in the Letters to the Editor box in the Spartan Daily office in Dwight Bentel Hall, room 209, sent by fax to (408) 942-3282, emailed to spartandaily@gmail.com or written to the Spartan Daily Opinion Editor at 1 Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0149. Letters must contain the author’s name, address, phone number, signature and major. Please make letters 300 words or less. Letters may be edited for spelling and clarity by Spartan Daily editors.

Plan B vending machines should be on more campuses



Elizabeth Rodriguez
Staff Writer

One of the important decisions in life is deciding the best form of birth control and contraceptives that are right for you and your partner. Exams, work and internships are just some parts of what college should be. It's also the time where students figure out who they are and what they want to do in life. College is also the time to not only discover who you are, but also who you like. During this time, as we try to become adults and make adult decisions, we sometimes discover that things don't always go as planned. Whether it be switching your major, finding a new place to live, paying your bills before buying a really nice pair of expensive shoes — some issues are far more important. We're all adults here, or at least trying

to be, and part of the deal is taking responsibility for our actions. Whether we are in a serious, committed relationship or not, taking the proper precautions before having sex is not only safe — it's smart. On March 31 the University of California, Davis joined many college campuses by putting in vending machines to dispense condoms, tampons, Advil, lubricant and morning-after pills. "Students deal with so much stress with school, work and an unplanned pregnancy shouldn't be one of them," said UCD sociology senior Sam Alavi. "Not only does the vending machine help destigmatize sex and contraception as well as pads and tampons, but it also makes emergency contraceptives more accessible to students." Similar to San Jose State, other college campuses have health centers that

provide students with contraceptives. However, walking in front of your peers and asking for a condom or Plan B can be pretty uncomfortable. An additional problem students face when wanting to practice safe sex is that they can only get contraceptives during the health center's limited open hours. The Student Health Center at SJSU is open from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. during the week and 4:30 p.m. on Fridays. Economics senior Parkeet Singh worked alongside UCD's Students Health and Wellness Center and Student Health and Counseling Services since the fall of 2015 to promote the vending machines on campus. In an interview with the Los Angeles Times, Singh said he had friends who wanted to purchase the Plan B pill on

a Friday night, but several pharmacies in the area were closed or all out of the emergency contraceptive. As well as dispensing feminine products, the vending machines sells the Plan B pill for approximately \$30 less than what it's sold for in pharmacies. Contraceptive vending machines don't promote unsafe sex. They instead provide students with the convenience and discretion that should come with practicing safe sex. Whether it's in a vending machine or a pharmacy, those products still exist. The vending machine makes these products easier to access for students. Things don't always go as planned, and it's not your fault. If you have access to the proper medications and resources available to you that is indeed a good thing. The contraceptive vending machines don't promote unsafe sex. It gives an accessible and affordable alternative for when things don't go as planned.

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CONTACT:
EDITORIAL
(408) 924-5577
SPARTANDAILY@GMAIL.COM
ADVERTISING
(408) 924-3270
SPARTANDAILYADVERTISING@GMAIL.COM

CLASSIFIEDS

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21						22			
				23							24			
25	26	27						28	29					
30						31	32					33	34	35
36					37	38					39			
40					41						42			
				43						44	45			
46	47	48						49	50					
51						52	53					54	55	56
57						58					59			
60						61					62			
63						64					65			

- ACROSS**

1 "Too bad!"

5 Common model wood

10 Old-style "Good grief!"

14 Intensely enthusiastic

15 Weapons for some fencers

16 Manufacture

17 More than just villainous

18 John the farm machinery giant

19 Result of a nice pat on the back?

20 Place with a mob of meerkats

23 Achieved by chance, not skill

24 Wasn't relative?

25 Outward curvature of a lower limb

28 Not well

30 Standout opera performance

31 Fix a knotty situation

33 "Speed" vehicle

36 Traveler's place named after John Wayne

40 Jackson Hole bugler

41 Deceiving

42 Small bit of rootless flora

43 Some beasts at 20-Across

44 Verbal give-and-take

46 Completely submerged
- 49 Extermination acid

51 Former Southwest transport system

57 Take cover

58 Quite angry

59 Continental cash

60 Happily-after link

61 More friendly

62 Maker of tablets and monitors

63 Loch with a monster

64 Wails in mourning

65 Carriage with two wheels

DOWN

1 Improves naturally, as wine

2 Red-hot flower?

3 Opposed to, hillbilly style

4 Badland feature

5 Urban pest

6 Straight up and down, nautically

7 Not at all trusting

8 Certain Balkan

9 On the briny

10 Start a voyage

11 First-aid kit wrap

12 Ohio tire metropolis

13 Place of many boardings

21 Pub serving

22 Jackie Stewart, famously

25 Machado's third?

26 By mouth

27 "Just the opposite" gesture

28 Bambi's father was one

...
- 29 Three on a grandfather clock

31 Team wear, in slang

32 River of Thailand or a literary twin

33 What a nut gets screwy on

34 Inner desire

35 One putting butts in movie seats

37 Omega's opposite

38 Sure thing to a sailor?

39 Insulin-producing glandular organ

43 Flowers that bloom in the fall

44 Some prickly plants (var.)

45 Be 28-Across

46 Whiter shade of pale?

47 Forgo, as one's rights

48 Massive range of South America

49 Prepare for impact

50 Like much horse feed

52 Disloyal "rat"

53 Great Lake or canal

54 "That hurt!"

55 Region, as of a town

56 Animated film's titular fish

SUDOKU PUZZLE

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

		9		7	5		4	
				2	9	8		
6		3					7	
	3		8	1		4		
				4				
		8		9	3		1	
	4						1	6
		1	2	6				
	2		4	3		9		

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

SOLUTIONS 5/2/2017

7	2	9	1	5	4	3	8	6
1	5	6	8	7	3	4	9	2
3	4	8	2	9	6	7	5	1
6	7	3	9	4	8	2	1	5
9	8	5	3	1	2	6	4	7
2	1	4	5	6	7	9	3	8
5	3	7	4	2	1	8	6	9
4	6	1	7	8	9	5	2	3
8	9	2	6	3	5	1	7	4

O	F	T		L	A	M	B	A	D	A		A	S	K
A	I	R		E	Q	U	A	T	O	R		M	I	N
F	E	A	R	F	U	L	N	E	S	S		O	N	E
				V	I	T	A	L			E	O	C	E
E	L	E	G				E	S	T		N	O	B	E
T	A	R					T	A	R	O		L	A	D
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P	O	O	L	S		E	E	N		B	A	A	E	D
P	O	N	Y	U	P				L	O	O	N	Y	
E	N	D				T	R	E	P	I	D	A	T	I
R	I	O				R	E	F	I	N	E	R	S	H
S	E	N				A	P	T	N	E	S	S		T

JOKIN' AROUND

Why did the tomato turn red?

Because it saw the salad dressing

What do you call an apology written in dots and dashes?

Remorse code

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SPARTAN UP

SJSU athletes support other teams on campus

BY PAYJE REDMOND
Staff Writer

According to San Jose State athletes and coaches, the companionship among teams on campus is stronger than some may think.

By supporting each other on and off the field, Spartan athletes say they are motivated to play stronger.

“Whether it’s the women’s soccer team or the baseball team, I try to encourage our players to be supportive of everything San Jose State,” said men’s soccer head coach Simon Tobin.

Junior defender Carlos Valdovinos said he attends both men’s and women’s basketball games, women’s soccer games and golf tournaments.

Valdovinos met his girlfriend, women’s golf player Arielle Caronna, at an athlete banquet.

“I didn’t know anything about golf,” Valdovinos said. “That was a new thing for me.”

Whenever there is a home tournament, Valdovinos tries to attend, despite the fact that games can last four hours.

Tobin said going to different teams’ games adds to the experience of being a college student.

“If it’s on campus, it’s convenient for students to go,” said freshman defender Jeff Dukes.

Dukes met his girlfriend Miyo Kobayashi, who plays for the women’s tennis team, through Spartan Athletics.

The coaches in the athletic department set the example of forming bonds with one another.

“Because they are next door, we’ve got quite a close relationship with the baseballs staff,” Tobin said.

The coach is new and so far they have gotten along pretty well Tobin said. It’s important for coaches to be cordial with each other Tobin said.

“Our staff are friends and we want want our kids to be friends as well,” Tobin said.

Dukes said that when the baseball

team attends their games it motivates him to play harder.

“It feels like someone is supporting our back, like we are home,” Dukes said.

Duke said he especially appreciates when his fellow Spartans show up to road games.

When SJSU students showed up to their Santa Clara game, it didn’t really feel like they were playing on the road Duke said.

Senior defender Myia Wilkes interacts with other athletes every day, whether in the dorms or just walking to class.

The women’s soccer team shares a

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Whether it’s the women’s soccer team or the baseball team, I try to encourage our players to be supportive of everything San Jose State.

Simon Tobin
SJSU men’s soccer head coach

locker room with the women’s baseball team Wilkes said.

She often sends group text messages to remind women’s soccer players of games they’ll be attending together.

Wilkes said she and her teammates will often write “good luck” messages for the other teams on whiteboards in common areas.

Pottorff shares a suite with a water polo player and a volleyball player. She often finds out their game schedules so she can attend and support their friendships.

“Most of the time we go as a whole team, it’s even better for team bonding,” Pottorff said.

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FAMILY FASTBALL

Spartan pitcher plays to honor late mother



KAVIN MISTRY | THE SPEAR (File image)

Senior Colette Riggs is 9-3 this season with a 2.24 ERA and four complete games.

BY KYLEE BAIRD
Staff Writer

Colette Riggs grew up in the small town of Yorba Linda, Calif. — just 37 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles.

A graduating softball pitcher at San Jose State, Riggs is majoring in biology with preparation for teaching.

Once Riggs receives her degree, she wants to teach high school biology.

Riggs began her collegiate softball career her freshman year at SJSU, but has been playing softball since she was just 3 years old.

She was both an athlete and a scholar.

“I also played basketball but decided to focus on softball because I didn’t want to spread myself too thin while taking AP courses,” Riggs said.

Aside from being an athlete at a young age, Riggs also played violin for six years from elementary school to high school. She also taught herself how to play piano after getting upset because her parents bought her sisters lessons but not herself.

Riggs has been a quiet, “do it myself” type of girl.

“She’s definitely a good leader,” said senior pitcher Katelyn Linford. “She leads quietly rather than yells at people. She’s someone you can look to.”

Both of Riggs’ parents were athletes as her mother was a cheerleader and played tennis while her father was a basketball player, so it was no surprise that she too became an athlete.

Her love for softball began by watching her two older sisters play when she was just a young girl.

“It’s a big part of my family because there is four girls total and we all play softball,” Riggs said. “It’s just something we all love to do and we connect over.”

Despite a positive childhood, adversity came upon Riggs’ family one day when her mother passed away her senior year of high school.

Riggs’ mother played a huge role in her decision to play softball for SJSU.

“This was one of the only schools that my mom came to visit with me,” Riggs said. “My mom loved it and she really wanted me to come here.”

She has come to the conclusion that it was the perfect choice and she is very happy here.

Riggs’ mother is her inspiration and she hopes to be just like her when she grows older.

“She showed me how strong you can be and how much of an impact you can

leave even if you’re not here forever,” Riggs said. “Just having her around was amazing for the short time that I did have her here.”

Ever since her mother passed away, Riggs’ older sisters have been like mother figures to both her younger sister and herself, but her father is “the rock of the family.”

Whenever Riggs gets the chance to take a trip home, she jumps at the chance to spend time with her family.

“We are all really close and we are very a part of everyone’s lives,” Riggs said. “When I go home, I only see my family.”

Her father can’t make it to all her games, but when she is in Southern California he makes sure to attend every game.

“My dad is very supportive,” Riggs said. “If he can’t make it to a game, he is watching it on the live tracker. He then later tells me what Coach Turner had to say after the game.”

Instead of looking up to a well-known professional female athlete, her athletic inspiration has always been her older sister Jackie.

“I wanted to be exactly like her even though she was a catcher,” Riggs said. “She was always so good and I just wanted to be as good as she was.”

Although her sister was a catcher, she wanted to do her own thing and pursue pitching instead, making her journey to become the best she can with the encouragement from her teammates over the last four seasons.

“Being pitchers together, we have to help each other a lot whether it’s helping each other out of a jam in a game or working on things,” Linford said. “We help each other fix it, so we can both do better together.”

Riggs has always had love for the game and continues to strive to be the best she can until her last game of the season.

“She has continued to improve each year and over the past two years she has made a significant impact on our team’s success,” said SJSU head softball coach Peter Turner.

Outside of Riggs’ busy schedule, she likes to do normal college-student things.

Her hobbies include going to the beach, playing basketball, being outdoors, hanging out with her pets and watching sports with her father.

Riggs loves animals to the point that she once had eight dogs, two cats, two turtles and two crayfish in her house at one time.

“My family just takes animals in like crazy,” Riggs said.

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